

Visit of His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General of India to His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore in November 1892.

His Excellency the Most Honorable the Marquess of Lansdowne, G.M.S.I., G.C.M.G., G.M.L.E., &c., &c., Viceroy and Governor General of India, accompanied by the Marchioness of Lansdowne and His Excellency's Staff, arrived on a visit to His Highness the Maharaja, at Mysore on Thursday, 10th November 1892.

His Excellency was met at Seringapatam by a deputation from His Highness, and at Mysore, by His Highness the Maharaja himself, attended by the principal Officers of State and with full Military and State Honors.

The procession from the Railway Station to the Government House which had been prepared for, the Viceregal Residence, passed along the road between the Silledar Lines and the General Hospital; then turned to the right into Sayaji Rao Road and afterwards to the left into Albert Victor Road and past the Clock Tower and through Dodpetta entered Government House by the new West Gate. Along this route, Hindu Pandits and Muhammadan Maulvis assembled under a Pavilion and greeted His Excellency with the usual honors. The students of all Boys' Schools, of the Wesleyan Girls' School and the Maharani Girls' School were next arranged on galleries under their respective banners and greeted his Excellency from their respective galleries as the cortege passed.

The Municipal Commissioners of the Mysore City and the leading land-holders and merchants of the State assembled under the Pavilion erected at the North Gate of the Fort, and the Municipal Commissioners presented His Excellency the Viceroy with an address of welcome in the following terms:—

To

HIS EXCELLENCY THE MOST HONORABLE SIR HENRY CHARLES KEITH.

PETTY-FITZMAURICE, MARQUESS OF LANSDOWNE, G.M.S.I., G.C.M.G., G.M.L.E.,

Viceroy and Governor General of India.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

We, the President and Members of the Mysore Municipality, beg to offer to Your Excellency and to Her Excellency the Marchioness of Lansdowne a most respectful and cordial welcome to the Capital of this ancient Native State. Your Excellency's visit is an event of happy augury to us, coincident as it is with the return of prosperous seasons after a period of anxiety caused by the severe drought which recently affected the greater part of the State.

Under the encouraging direction of our beloved Maharaja, many improvements have been effected in our City during the last decade. An established water-supply, a scheme for drainage and sanitation in course of execution, and the many large and handsome buildings, completed and under construction, at the new Western extension, will show to Your Excellency that our City is passing through a state of transition from a condition of comparative neglect to a position worthy of the Capital of the largest Native State in Southern India.

The warm sympathy with which Her Excellency the Marchioness of Lansdowne has followed up Lady Dufferin's philanthropic efforts for the better medical treatment of the women of India, emboldens us to commend to Her Excellency's kind notice the Maharani Hospital for women, which, with its female medical staff, is doing immense good to our women and children.

Your Excellency has just had some evidence of the advance which has been made in the education of our boys and girls. Among the several institutions brought under Your Excellency's notice, we would respectfully make special mention of the Maharani Girls' School which has made the greatest advance among such schools in Southern India and has extended the benefits of Female Education to the most conservative classes of the population.

The material and moral progress that has been achieved is not confined to the Capital. The whole State has, we are thankful to say, enjoyed continuous prosperity for many years and made substantial progress in all directions. We need only refer to the large Irrigation Works undertaken, to the extension of the Railway to tracts most liable to the inroads of Famine, to the many facilities afforded for the cultivation of land and for the development of industries and, more than all, to the unique institution known as the Representative Assembly, as instances indicating the progressive policy of His Highness the Maharaja's enlightened administration. We hope that Your Excellency will be able to find everywhere signs of a happy and contented people advancing in material and moral prosperity under a benevolent Government.

We humbly trust that Your Excellency's visit will prove as enjoyable to yourself as it is gratifying to us and that you may carry away pleasant recollections of our country and of our beloved Maharaja.

With sentiments of profound loyalty to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen Empress and praying that God may grant to Your Excellencies and to all the members of your family long life and every happiness,

We beg to subscribe ourselves,

Your Excellency's most obedient and loyal servants.

In reply, His Excellency the Viceroy was pleased to say as follows:—

Mr. President and Members of the Mysore Municipality,

It gives me much pleasure to acknowledge the loyal sentiments expressed in your address towards Her Majesty the Queen Empress of India, and I must add my own and Lady Lansdowne's thanks for the welcome with which you have received us in the Capital of the Mysore State.

I rejoice that you should be able to tell me that I have arrived here at a time when the trouble with which you were threatened during the past summer may be said to have completely disappeared.

I hope, during the next few days, to see something of the numerous improvements which have been effected in your city during the reign of His Highness the Maharaja, to whom you refer in terms which leave me in no doubt as to the esteem and respect in which he is held by his subjects.

It will be specially agreeable Lady Lansdowne, to whose interest in the philanthropic movement commenced by Lady Dufferin you have appropriately mentioned, to see the Maharani Hospital which confers such inestimable advantages upon the women and children of this neighbourhood.

The Educational Institutions of Mysore have achieved an honorable reputation and I believe that His Highness proposes that we should visit the Maharani Girls' School to which you have particularly called my attention.

Permit me to add that of the many interesting sights which met my eyes during our journey from the Station, none impressed me more than the great concourse of bright and intelligent looking school children who gave us such a hearty reception just before we reached this spot.

I rejoice to know that you are able to bear witness to the general progress which has been achieved of late not only in the Capital but throughout the Mysore State. I believe we should be perfectly justified in ascribing to the extension of Public Works, and notably to that of your Railway system, the success with which the recent scarcity was combated by the Mysore Darbar.

I feel no doubt that I shall carry away with me nothing but pleasant recollections of my visit to this State.

On the following day, *i. e.*, the 11th November, after sending a deputation to inquire after His Excellency's health, His Highness the Maharaja attended by principal Officers of State, paid a visit to His Excellency at the Viceregal Residence at noon, and His Excellency returned the visit at the Palace in the Amba Vilas the same afternoon. In the evening, His Highness the Maharaja entertained Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Marchioness of Lansdowne and Staff at a State Banquet at the Jagannmohan Palace. When dinner was over, His Highness the Maharaja proposed the health of Her Majesty the Queen of England and Empress of India, which was responded to with all Honors. On behalf of His Highness the Maharaja, the Dewan proposed the health of Their Excellencies the Viceroy and Lady Lansdowne in the following terms:—

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

By command of His Highness the Maharaja, I rise to propose in his name the health of our illustrious guests, Lord and Lady Lansdowne.

His Highness feels it was very gracious of their Excellencies to have accepted his invitation to visit this distant place; at so much personal inconvenience and discomfort. Mysore has had on previous occasions the honor of welcoming the Representative of Her Majesty the Queen Empress; but on the present occasion His Excellency has laid the Maharaja under a special obligation by agreeing to spend in this State so considerable a portion of the time at his disposal. His Excellency's visit, while it is a source of high gratification both to His Highness personally and to His loyal people, will be the means of affording a statesman of His Excellency's well-known sympathy for Native States an insight into the working of His Highness' administration and the present condition of his country.

No one who contemplates what India was in the past and what it is now can resist the conclusion that the destinies of this vast Empire could have been entrusted to no better hands than those of the British nation, for no nation either in ancient or modern times has placed before itself, as the English did at an early stage of their career in India, the high ideal that "the end of Government is the happiness of the governed." Magnificent as are the public works and institutions which will make the sway of the Queen Empress glorious for all time, it is the inculcation and practical working out of this grand principle of subordinating every consideration to that of the public well-being which will be most gratefully cherished by the generations to come. It has always been His Highness' ambition to prove himself a useful auxiliary of the British Government in the realization of its noble aims and purposes by promoting the progress and happiness of the population committed to his charge. And it has ever been His Highness' firm conviction that in thus endeavouring to co-operate with the British Government in its mission of diffusing the blessings of peace and prosperity over India, he was making the best return it was in his power to make for those spontaneous acts of British generosity to which he owes the restoration and perpetuation of his ancient dynasty.

His Highness cannot allow this opportunity to pass without alluding to a recent proof which the British Government have given of their confidence in him by assigning him a place in the scheme for a national defence of the Empire. The acceptance of a Mysore Cavalry Regiment for Imperial Services, His Highness will ever cherish as a high and valued privilege dear to him from the loyal traditions of his house and as a mark of consideration from her Majesty the Queen Empress. The Mysore Horse has an honorable record to show of good work done in the past and His Highness is sure that should occasion again arise for their employment for Imperial purposes, they will prove themselves worthy of their proud traditions as the descendants of those who shared with the British troops and under the immediate eye of England's greatest General, the glories of Assaye and Argaum.

In the person of His Excellency Lord Lansdowne, Ladies and Gentlemen, the Maharaja welcomes alike the august Representative of the great Queen Empress and an Imperial Statesman whose distinguished services to his country rendered in the West derive a fresh and additional lustre from the progressive beneficence of his rule in Her Majesty's Eastern Empire.

And His Highness is happy that at the same time he is enabled to give a most hearty welcome to Her Excellency the Marchioness of Lansdowne who, by the powerful support she has been giving to the philanthropic movement initiated by Lady Dufferin has secured for herself a place in the affections of the people as high as that of her illustrious predecessor, for, a wise Sanskrit proverb dear to the Hindu heart says "Great is the reward of those who institute charities, but greater that of those who maintain them, for their portion is eternal bliss."

Now, Ladies and Gentlemen, His Highness calls upon you to drink the health of our illustrious guests with all honors.

In reply, His Excellency the Viceroy and Governor General spoke as follows:—

I must in the first place express the pleasure with which I have listened to His Highness's loyal speech and to his eloquent reference to the historical occasions upon which the Mysore State gave practical proofs of its fidelity to the British Crown.

I have also to thank His Highness for the kind terms in which he has proposed my health and for his graceful reference to Lady Lansdowne and to the interest which she takes in the useful movement commenced by Lady Dufferin.

It is a very great pleasure to me to find myself his guest, and to see something of his State. Its position is in many respects unlike that of any other.

Eleven years ago, Her Majesty's Government, after administering the Mysore State for half a century, and after expending much thought and pains in order to place its affairs upon a sound footing, determined to replace it in the charge of an Indian Ruler. The step was a most momentous one, and the responsibility of those by whom it was taken was very serious, indeed. I am glad to bear witness to the fact that, to the best of my belief, His Highness has never given us cause to regret the decision carried out in 1881 by Lord Ripon's Government. The Mysore State, far from adding to our cares and anxieties, has been administered with much success, its people are contented with their position, and its Ruler has shown by his acts that he has worthy of the trust reposed in him. If the result had been different, His Highness the Maharaja would certainly have been held accountable. The result having been what it is, he is entitled to the most liberal measure of credit. He has proved himself an intelligent and upright ruler, who has from the commencement of his reign shown himself alive to the duties of his position. His Highness has received an education which has enabled him to profit by the culture and wider political ideas of the West, but he has not lost touch of his own people or forfeited their confidence, and there is probably no State in India where Ruler and ruled are on more satisfactory terms, or in which the great principle upon which His Highness has insisted, that Government should be for the happiness of the governed, receives a greater measure of practical recognition.

There is, perhaps, no better test of the soundness of an administration than its ability to pass without discredit through a period of exceptional difficulty. The Mysore State has lately encountered such a trial, and has, I am glad to say, surmounted it successfully. The failure of the rain-fall, last year threatened at one moment to lead to a reappearance of the calamities which befell this part of India in the years 1876-77 and '78, but so effectual were the measures taken by Your Highness's direction that your Minister, of whose energy and administrative capacity I am able to speak in the highest terms, has been able to report to you that during the period of scarcity, the death-rate did not rise above the normal, and that there were no deaths clearly traceable to starvation. But this was not all. Advantage was taken of the opportunity thus offered in order to set on foot a system of Relief Works under which the water-supply available for the use of Your Highness's subjects has been permanently improved, with the result of largely diminishing the danger to be apprehended from future periods of scarcity. No expenditure of public money is more useful than that upon Irrigation wells in Districts liable to drought, and the system of making advances to the raiyats for this purpose upon easy terms, is one which has had excellent results in other parts of India, and which Your Highness has certainly done well to encourage.

There is another matter, to which I must refer in this connection. At the time of the earlier period of scarcity to which I referred just now, only fifty miles of Railway were open within Your Highness' State. You have now no less than 364 miles open for traffic, whilst fifty miles more are under construction. There can, I think, be no question that this large addition to the Railway mileage of Mysore has been, and will be, the means of affording the population additional security from the disasters of famine.

I believe I am right in saying that, since Your Highness's accession, no less than 150 lakhs of rupees have been spent on the Mysore State Railway alone, and I rejoice to hear that Your Government contemplates further extensions, in addition to those already in progress, with the object of bringing Mysore into direct communication with the Western seaboard.

In many other directions His Highness the Maharaja has shown himself mindful of the best interests of the people committed to his charge. Good progress has been made with the important work of Revenue Settlement which was only half completed when His Highness succeeded; new roads have been constructed, hospitals and dispensaries have been opened, attention has been paid to the improvement of the breeds of cattle, the enterprise of the miner and the planter have been encouraged. Last, but not least, the State has liberally encouraged educational institutions, and I may refer with special interest to the schools for girls with which the name of Her Highness the Maharani will always be honorably connected.

I have also to express my acknowledgments of the manner in which His Highness has placed a portion of His troops under special discipline in order to qualify them to take their place alongside of ours for the defence of the empire. I am glad to think that that portion of the outlay which has been appropriated for the Imperial Service Troops has been the means of adding to the resources of the Empire, as well as to the efficiency of the Mysore Army without imposing an excessive burden upon the Exchequer of the State.

There is one other matter as to which I should like to say a few words before I sit down. I have watched with the utmost interest the valuable experiment which His Highness has instituted in the formation of the consultative council, known as "The Dasara Representative Assembly." This council has been in existence ever since His Highness's accession and of late years he has increased its numbers and has invited the various Local Boards, Municipalities, and public associations to depute members to it. More recently still, the wealthier classes of the community have been permitted to choose a certain proportion of the members, and I understand that the qualification for membership has been fixed so as to include not only those who are the largest land-holders, and the most representative merchants and traders, but that, in certain cases, the possession of a high education has been recognized as in itself a qualification. His Highness has found that his hands have been materially strengthened by the deliberations of the public body thus constituted and I sincerely congratulate him upon the result of the experiment. It is one which possesses a particular interest for me, because, as you are aware, the Government of India is, at this moment, itself engaged in a very interesting attempt to increase the numbers and to enlarge the functions of our own Legislative Councils. His Highness, in his desire to inform himself of the feelings of the leading classes and people of Mysore, has, it seems to me, acted with true statesmanlike instincts. I trust that he will continue in this, and other respects, to govern the State in the enlightened spirit by which his rule has hitherto been characterised, and I am glad to have this opportunity of publicly assuring him of the good-will and approval of the Government of India.

His Highness then returned his best thanks to His Excellency.

After viewing a grand display of fireworks, the party broke up.

On the 3rd day, i. e., 12th November, His Excellency the Viceroy received at his residence, deputations from the Members of the Mysore Dasara Representative Assembly, the Mysore Planters' Association, the Coorg Planters' Asso-

ciation, the Coorgs and the Guru of the Sringeri Matt. The deputation on behalf of the Representative Assembly consisted of 32 Members from various parts of the State and Mr. Raja Rao read and presented the following address to his Excellency the Viceroy:—

To

HIS EXCELLENCY THE MOST HONORABLE SIR HENRY CHARLES KEITH
PETTY-FITZMAURICE, MARQUESS OF LANSDOWNE, G.M.S.I., G.C.M.G., G.M.I.E.,
Viceroy and Governor General of India.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

We, the Members of the Mysore Representative Assembly, beg most respectfully on behalf of the people of this Province to express our grateful appreciation of the honor done to us by the visit of Your Excellency to the territories of His Highness the Maharaja.

The constitution of the Assembly to which we have the honor to belong was one of the first enlightened measures inaugurated by His Highness the Maharaja on his assumption of the administration of the State. His sincere desire to advance the best interests of his people suggested to him the idea of calling to his counsels the leading men of all sections of the community, and the warm sympathy and continued interest with which he has watched and fostered the institution during the past eleven years have lead to its development into the Assembly possessing a definite representative character which Your Excellency finds today.

From the sentiments expressed from time to time by His Highness' Government we have every reason to presume that they are satisfied that we serve a useful purpose and that our representations and discussions are of some help to them in adapting their policy to the practical requirements of the country.

While, on the one hand, the Assembly has thus been a source of strength to the Administration, it has, on the other, been the means of awakening in the people an interest in the measures of the Government. We approach Your Excellency with every assurance that an address from the Mysore Representative Assembly as now constituted cannot fail to interest a Statesman who has shown such warm sympathy with the desire of Her Majesty's subjects in India to have their voice heard in the Councils of the State.

Your Excellency will be pleased to learn that this year His Highness' Government has, in accordance with our representations, promised a measure of social reform in regard to infant marriages which, we are assured, cannot fail to be productive of great good to the Hindu community both in its direct results and as an educative agency.

We cannot meet Your Excellency today without referring to the period of scarcity through which we have recently passed. We are grateful to His Highness' Government for the prompt measures taken by them for combating the threatened Famine. At the very first signs of distress, the Dewan, under His Highness' direction, toured through the affected tracts and took every precaution to prevent suffering, and his energetic action and ready sympathy have elicited expressions of warm approval and admiration on every side.

We are thankful also for the many measures of public usefulness which have been undertaken by His Highness' Government and which have conferred lasting benefit on the country. The Railways constructed and the valuable Irrigation works carried out will, for all time, entitle the Government to our gratitude. And while thus grateful to His Highness for his wise and beneficent rule, we are no less grateful and loyal to the Great Queen Empress and to her illustrious Representative in India, who have always evinced a deep interest in Mysore and the prosperity of its people.

In conclusion, we thank Your Excellency for the patient hearing you have been pleased to extend to us and praying that God may vouchsafe his choicest blessings to Your Excellency and to the members of your family.

We beg to subscribe ourselves,
Your Excellency's most obedient and loyal servants.

In reply, His Excellency the Viceroy was pleased to say as follows:—

GENTLEMEN,

It gives me much pleasure to meet the Members of the Mysore Representative Assembly.

I have already publicly expressed the interest which I feel in this important body. The manner in which His Highness the Maharaja has, from the time when the Assembly was first called into existence at his accession, watched over and fostered its development, reflects the greatest credit upon the statesmanlike instincts of His Highness, and I feel sure that the fact of its constitution being to some extent based upon the principle of representation will greatly add to the weight of its deliberations, and to the respect with which its suggestions will be received. The inquiries which I have made from those who are best able to judge have satisfied me that your proceedings have served a most useful purpose and have brought His Highness's Government into touch with all classes of the community.

I have heard with much pleasure that your discussions have been conducted in a thoroughly practical spirit, and that on the one hand the members have not hesitated to bring forward grievances where grievances were supposed to exist, while, on the other the Dewan has dealt in the frankest possible manner with the suggestions which have been made.

You are quite right in supposing that this remarkable experiment has a special interest in my eyes, because the Government of India is at this moment engaged in introducing considerable changes in the constitution and functions of our own Legislative Councils.

I shall be glad to hear that your efforts to procure a measure of reform in regard to infant marriages are successful. The subject is one of very great difficulty. The Government of India has, as you are aware, given practical proof of its desire to protect immature children, but in passing the measure to which I refer—a measure which appeared to us to be required in the interests of humanity, the Government of India did not attempt to interfere with the domestic institutions of this country as such. We feel that it is mainly to the spontaneous action of the people, whether within or without the limits of British India, that we must look for social reforms of the kind which you desire to effect.

Allow me again to congratulate you on the success with which the recent scarcity has been combated. The prompt and vigorous action taken under His Highness's direction deserves the commendation which it has received at your hands.

I trust that the Representative Assembly will continue to assist the Ruler and the Government of the State in the conduct of its affairs and that it will always be inspired by the loyal feelings which you have been good enough to express upon the present occasion.

The Members of the deputation were then introduced to His Excellency one by one by name and they bowed to His Excellency and retired. Then His Excellency the Viceroy received the combined deputation from the Mysore North and South Planters' Associations who presented the following address:—

To

HIS EXCELLENCY THE MARQUESS OF LANSDOWNE, G. M. S. I., G. C. M. G., G. M. I. E.,

Viceroy and Governor General of India.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

We, the Representatives of the combined Planting Associations of Mysore, most respectfully beg to express our deep appreciation of the honor conferred on the inhabitants of Mysore, by this Province having been included in Your Excellency's tour through Southern India, and while gladly availing ourselves of this opportunity to tender an expression of profound loyalty to our beloved Sovereign Her Majesty the Queen Empress, we beg to offer a heartfelt welcome to Your Excellency as Viceroy of this great Empire.

As British subjects domiciled in this State under the benign rule of His Highness the Maharaja, we esteem it our duty to briefly allude to certain important matters which vitally affect the interests of the industry we have the honor to represent, and the settlement of which rests with the Supreme Government.

Act XIII of 1859 having now been distinctly proved by the accumulated decisions of the High Courts of Madras, Bombay and Mysore, to be utterly unsuited in its present form to meet the requirements for which its provisions were extended to the Planting Districts, and moreover, by its loosely-worded clauses positively to frustrate the very objects for which it was originally and specially desired, we have united with the other Associations of Southern India in submitting a Memorial to Your Excellency in Council, through the Government of Madras, praying most earnestly that the Ordinance may be amended in a manner calculated effectually to guard the interests of both the employer and his laborers. As far however as this Province is concerned, we have the honor most respectfully to submit that no alteration in the Act specified can possibly render its provisions effectual, so long as the privilege of issuing warrants operative in British Territory is withheld from the Government of Mysore.

It is a matter for sincere congratulation that the Governments of Madras and Mysore have mutually recognized the necessity for extending the existing Railway system to the Western Coast, and have ordered a preliminary survey of the various routes proposed.

Mangalore is undoubtedly the natural outlet for the products of this State, and we being intimately acquainted with the wishes of the inhabitants of our District, both European and Native, venture to assure Your Excellency that it is the prevailing opinion that a line to any other Port would fail to divert the large trade which now exists with that Town, or to meet the growing requirements of the country generally.

The line from Mangalore to the Southern Mahratta Railway would also render available, by the most direct route, the produce of a vast expanse of the richest rice growing country in South Canara, for the needs of those Maidan Taluks of Mysore which have always been the first to suffer in periods of scarcity.

We have taken the liberty of drawing Your Excellency's attention to these matters, which are of paramount importance to our community, in the full assurance that they will receive that measure of favourable consideration which the immense interests involved appear to us to deserve.

In conclusion, we most sincerely trust that the tour Your Excellency is now making through this Presidency, may, while affording an interesting insight into the circumstances under which the various industrial enterprises of the people are conducted, be attended with every possible enjoyment, and that especially with regard to Mysore, most pleasant recollections may be ever retained.

To the above address and to that presented by the Coorg Planters' Association, His Excellency the Viceroy was pleased to reply as follows:—

GENTLEMEN,

It may be convenient that, as the points dealt with in these two addresses are to some extent identical, I should make one statement in reply to them both.

Let me begin by assuring you that it gives me great pleasure to meet the members of the combined Planting Associations of Mysore and of the Coorg Planters' Association.

You are the representatives of industries to which this part of India owes much of its prosperity and I am first to admit that you have a right to avail yourself of my presence here in order to lay before me any matters in the treatment of which you have a special interest.

Both Associations have called my attention to the operation of the Labour Act of 1859 and have memorialised the Government of India upon this subject. I shall

take care that the views which you have expressed receive careful consideration, and I have no doubt that it will be possible to furnish you with an early decision upon the points at issue. I observe that the Mysore Darbar has suggested that offences committed under Act XIII should be included in the Schedule referred to in Section 11 of the Extradition Act, so that Criminal Processes issuing in the Mysore Courts should be executed in British India in the same manner as if such processes had been issued in British Courts. That is a proposal requiring careful scrutiny and I would rather reserve my judgment upon it. I may say, however, that it gives me much pleasure to observe that the Mysore Planters have been careful to make it clear that any amendment of the Law should be carried out in such a manner as to guard effectually the interests of both the employer and his labourers. The Act in question is one of which the principle has been not infrequently assailed, and any attempt to render its provisions more stringent would certainly be regarded in many quarters with suspicion. All legislation affecting labour, particularly that legislation which gives to the employer a remedy against the person of his employe, raises questions of some difficulty, and we should, I am sure all of us deprecate changes of the Law which might have the effect of creating in India or elsewhere, a feeling that it was unduly favorable to one of the parties concerned.

The next point which is mentioned in both addresses is the question of the extension of Railway communication to the West Coast.

A study of the map, and a perusal of the papers which have been submitted to me leaves no room for doubt that such extension would be advantageous, and I trust that we may look forward to it. I understand that the Mysore Darbar whose co-operation was clearly necessary before any line could be promoted or surveyed, has hitherto been prevented from taking up any of these projects owing to the large expenditure upon other lines to which it was already committed. It has now, I am glad to hear, expressed its willingness to share with the Madras Government the cost of surveying several of the proposed routes, and it is prepared to construct its own portion of any line which may ultimately be approved.

Some of these lines would certainly serve a useful purpose both for the protection of the country against famine, and also for the development of its industrial resources.

Nothing would give me greater pleasure than to see some of these projects taken up by private companies, which if the facts are as you have stated them in a memorial which has lately been submitted to the Government of India, should certainly find the enterprise a remunerative one. I should be wanting in candour were I to lead you to expect that the Government of India is likely in the near future either itself to construct or to guarantee any of these projects. The resources at our disposal are, as you know, limited and are hypothecated for some time to come.

As to guarantees, I could, I think, give you excellent reasons for which, in common prudence, the time has come when we ought to hold our hand. These are, however, questions, which do not yet arise in reference to the Railways in which you are specially interested: the first step which is necessary is to obtain proper surveys of the country, and these are I am glad to know likely to be undertaken without loss of time.

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I have now only to express the pleasure which it has given me to meet the members of both Associations and to thank them for the expressions of good will and loyalty contained in their Addresses.

The deputation from the Sringeri Guru headed by the Agent M. R. Ry. Subrahanya Sastri presented the following address to His Excellency the Viceroy:—

To

HIS EXCELLENCY THE MOST HONORABLE SIR HENRY CHARLES KEITH

PETTY-FITZMAURICE, MARQUESS OF LANSDOWNE, G.M.S.I., G.C.M.G., G.M.I.E.,

Viceroy and Governor General of India.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

On this auspicious occasion of Your Excellency's welcome visit to this part of India, it affords us peculiar pleasure to convey our warm and heartfelt felicitations to the representative of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen Empress.

2. The advent of Sri Senkaracharya into this world as an incarnation of Siva two thousand years ago, his early predilection to a religious life, his vast learning, his extensive travels in the country and his revival of thought when materialism was rampant in the country, are all matters well known to European scholars and to the world.

3. The labours of Vidyaranya, also called Sayana Madhavacharya, one of our predecessors, in the cause of Vedic and Sastrie learning and his unparalleled commentaries on the Vedas and every branch of Sanskrit literature are matters of history. His political connection with the then reigning dynasty of the Karnatic Kings of Vijayanagar whom the Mysore Kings represent now, are remembered by the people and ourselves with pride and pleasure.

4. The establishment of British power in India and Her Most Gracious Majesty's Proclamation of 1858 have vouchsafed to the Natives of India religious toleration and freedom of thought in happy contrast with what existed under previous rulers; and we as the spiritual leader of the Princes, Chiefs, and a large portion of the people of India dwell with thankfulness upon this policy of the British Government.

5. Having the Head-quarters of our Matt at Sringeri in the Territories of His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore and being under his immediate protection and treated with every mark of devotion and respect, we and our predecessors have watched the progress of the country with anxious interest; and the gracious recognition by the Empress, of the adoption of the present Maharaja and the solicitude with which the British Government qualified the young Prince for the responsible duties of Kingship, are acts which will shed everlasting lustre on the name of the Empress and the British Nation. We are ever grateful to them for this act of generosity. And we are likewise grateful that through a merciful Providence the British hold dominant sway over India. Among the many benefits that have marked their benign sway, education of the people is the one that has always elicited our approval and admiration, for Sarasvati or the goodness of learning has been our tutelary goddess from the time of the great Senkaracharya.

6. Representing as Your Excellency does, the Great Queen and Empress of India and the British Nation in this peninsula, it gives us peculiar gratification, that amidst the multifarious duties and responsibilities attaching to Your Excellency's exalted station, Your Excellency has found time to pay a visit to the Native States of this part of India and to see for yourself how happy the people are under the Princes and Chiefs to whose beneficent keeping their destinies have been entrusted.

7. As the representative of the Great Senkaracharya in the position of spiritual head of a large portion of the Hindu community, we have deputed our agent and a chosen number of learned men attached to our Matt to present this address of welcome to Your Excellency and we shall deem it an honor if you can graciously receive the address.

8. In conclusion, we pray to the ALMIGHTY God whom we devoutly seek to serve all the days of our life, that He may preserve in good health, and shower His choicest blessings on Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen Empress of India, on all the members of the Royal Family, on Your Excellency and Her Excellency the Marchioness and on Your Family.

In reply, His Excellency the Viceroy spoke as follows:—

It has given me great pleasure to receive this deputation, and I have listened with much interest and satisfaction to the loyal words contained in the address presented to me on behalf of the Sringeri Guru. I notice gladly the reference made in the address to the desire of the Government of India to exercise towards the Natives of this country the utmost toleration in all religious matters. I have also observed with pleasure what has been said as to the conduct of the Government of India in restoring the Mysore State to the family represented by the present Maharaja who rules the people of Mysore with so much wisdom and with so great a regard for their well-being. I will ask you to be good enough to convey my thanks to the Sringeri Guru for his loyal sentiments and tell him that he may depend on being treated by the Government of India with the same consideration which has always been extended to him in past years.

In the evening Their Excellencies the Viceroy and the Marchioness of Lansdowne presided at a distribution of prizes at the Maharani Girls' School. After selections in music and recitations were gone through by students of the School and Lady Lansdowne had given away the prizes, the Honorable Mr. P. Chentsal Rao, as Chairman of the Committee of Management, spoke to the following effect:—

May it please Your Excellencies and Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen:—

It is a matter for congratulation to the Managing Committee which I now do myself the honor of representing as their unworthy President, and it is also no doubt a source of gratification to His Highness the Maharaja that we have been permitted to present the report of the progress of the school committed to our charge to Their Excellencies Lady and Lord Lansdowne. I say it is a matter for congratulation not merely because of the honor conferred on us which we certainly prize highly and for which we are extremely thankful, but also because, I know from experience that when great personages appear among us, they exercise a sort of talismanic influence on our minds and impart to us, I cannot explain how, a part of their own personal instincts and development. One word of approval, one word of appreciation, one word of advice from them is enough to give the workers a new and powerful impulse, and I hope that this visit of Their Excellencies to our school will be the dawn of a new era in the history of the progress of Female Education in the Province of Mysore.

The school was started by Her Highness the Maharani in 1882, not for the purpose of qualifying women to tunnel mountains, or to make laws or to make money but to make them good directors of home-power—a power which we all know, it is beyond our means to keep from them, and which they exercise upon us, when ignorant, most cruelly with all the power of a despot, but which when they are enlightened, they use most beneficially as our merciful Maharani has done in inducing His Highness the Maharaja to take such active and deep interest in the cause of the education and regeneration of her sisters.

The work we have undertaken is so vast in its magnitude, that it is impossible for us to show any great results within any short period. It is a work of generations but I am glad I am able to say that we have made a beginning, and a very fair beginning, and that our future prospects are not only promising, but also bright.

We have, thanks to the indefatigable energy and labors of Darbar Bakshi, Rai Bahadur Narasim Iyengar, who had the exclusive management of the school up to the middle of the last year, and threw his heart and soul into the work and brought it to its present efficient condition, succeeded in removing the prejudices of Brahmins, the ecclesiastical aristocracy of India, against Female Education. Nineteenths of the girls that attend the school are Brahmins and most of them, Brahmins of Brahmins, and some of the members on the direction, are also orthodox Brahmins who, I am glad to say, take quite as much interest in the progress of the school as their more advanced brethren. I make prominent mention of this fact as Brahmins, howmuchsoever they might have lost their original purity of life, still

continue to be the leaders of society and their actions are closely imitated by all other classes. With the vanquishment of their prejudices which I am glad, we have nearly accomplished in this Province, it may be said that the problem of Female Education in India is half solved. Another important point we have gained is, here also my thanks are due to Mr. Narasim Iyengar, people in Mysore now see the necessity and advantage of allowing the girls to remain in the school for some time even after their marriage which unfortunately takes place in this country at too early an age, and actually allow them to do so. This has enabled us to train some high caste ladies as teachers, so that they may impart at least primary and secondary education to their sisters, sons and daughters—a work which I am convinced men can never do as successfully as women, especially in India where all males and even women if they are of inferior castes are religiously refused access in respectable families. Almost all the teachers of the higher classes in our school which are attended by grown up girls are high caste ladies who have been brought up in this school, and we are also endeavouring to turn out every year a good number of such lady teachers and supply the want which is badly felt in the Mofussil. Last year, out of the 12 pupils of our school who appeared for the 'Teachers' Examination known as the Lower Secondary Examination, 9 passed successfully. One of them K. Subbamma, heading, I am proud to say, the list of all the candidates, males and females, who took up Kannada as their chief language.

We have not confined our labors to the school. We also impart Home Education to grown up women who have prejudices, or are otherwise unable to attend the school, in a manner congenial to their feelings. In doing so while we do not encourage any sectarian education likely to foster petty animosities, we have not declared any open war against it, as it certainly has its moral utility in the present state of the Hindu mind. We therefore allow our home pupils to read in addition to pursuing secular studies, such religious works as they take delight in, only taking care to bend their minds in such a way as to associate virtue with pleasure and vice with pain. In the school, however, the subjects taught are all secular excepting in the lower classes where small girls are allowed to commit to memory religious poems, in the recitation of which the parents take particular delight, and we pay also particular attention to cookery, sewing, music and fancy work,—the universally acknowledged feminine accomplishments. All these measures, which we have adopted, with the full sanction and approval of His Highness the Maharaja and his able Minister, Mr. Sheshadri Iyer, and the success attained, have had such an immense effect on the minds of the people that in rural parts and even in such orthodox centres as Melkote and Mandya, grown up ladies of superior caste, chiefly those who have had the misfortune of losing their husbands at an early age, have taken to learning without the intervention of Government and are qualifying themselves for the work of teachers. I am authentically given to understand that not less than a dozen of them will appear for the Teachers' Examination at the end of this year. These few facts I have mentioned (I can mention some more but I do not, lest, I may fatigue Their Excellencies), and the performances witnessed this evening are enough to show how the cause of Female Education stands in Mysore. The success, little as it is, which we have attained, is, I can unhesitatingly say, due to one cause and one cause only, namely, the active and deep interest taken by His Highness the Maharaja, whose praise will I doubt not sooner or later be sung, as the Hindu proverb has it, by every woman that rocks a cradle in this Province.

Without further tiring Your Excellencies with more details of the various other steps we have taken, and the success we have been able to attain in each, I beg leave to submit, a small suggestion in the interests of Female Education for the kind consideration of His Excellency the Viceroy.

Although the main object of Female Education is, as I have already said, not to enable women to earn money, still the prospect of decent and honorable livelihood is by no means a mean incentive to exertion even in the case of women, especially in India where, owing to the pernicious system of early marriage and permanent widowhood, many a young woman is thrown helpless on the slender resources of her parents at a very early period of her life. His Highness the Maharaja is ready and is willing to help educated women as far as it is within

his power by finding them some employment in the Educational Department and, if, in addition to this, the Government of India can make a rule that when vacancies occur in Post Offices and Telegraph Offices, the female candidates, if they are qualified should, as I believe it is the case in England, have preference over the male candidates, I think it would give a fresh impetus to the cause of Female Education and further its progress with unprecedented rapidity. It is the birthright of all English ladies and gentlemen and much more so of the English aristocracy to do all that lies in their power to elevate the gentler sex, and I need not therefore dwell further on the matter. The appointments I seek on behalf of women are only such as they can hold without detriment to efficiency or shock to Hindu ideas of decency. I trust that unless there is some insuperable difficulty, which perhaps my zeal in the cause of Female Education does not enable me to see, His Excellency the Viceroy will be graciously pleased to give a favorable consideration to my humble suggestion and thus make the tree so generously planted by Her Highness the Maharani, and so affectionately nursed and cared for by His Highness the Maharaja, bear abundant fruit enough to meet the requirements of not only the Province of Mysore but also the whole of Southern India.

I am sorry I have taken so much of Your Excellencies' time, but I trust that Your Excellencies will be pleased to accept the importance of the subject as my apology and excuse any impropriety that I have unconsciously committed.

His Excellency the Viceroy then said as follows :—

Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Neither Lady Lansdowne nor I would like to leave this room without expressing the pleasure which it has given us to visit this school. The Honorable Mr. Chentsal Rao, in the interesting speech which he has just delivered, said that one of the advantages to be derived from a Viceregal visit was that it might be made the occasion of a word of encouragement to institutions of this kind. If I can speak such a word of encouragement, no matter how simple, I shall certainly speak it from my heart, and it was with this object that I have risen this afternoon. (*Applause.*)

The Honorable Mr. Chentsal Rao made another suggestion, which struck me as a very practical one with regard to the possibility of opening certain classes of employment to young persons who had received sufficient education at this and other schools. I can assure him that it will give me great pleasure to have that matter thoroughly looked into, although with that caution which is characteristic of all officials, I must decline to commit myself further upon the subject. (*Applause.*)

It seems to me that this school is calculated to confer a very great and lasting benefit upon the Mysore State. I understand that its main object is to provide with a sound education girls of high caste. The majority of the pupils are Brahmins but the school is open to other girls of good caste and position. We look to persons belonging to the best castes to place themselves in the van of all liberal and enlightened movements, and for that reason it seems to me of immense importance that women of high caste, as well as men, should receive a sound and thorough education in schools of this sort. (*Applause.*)

Then there is another most useful function which this school seems designed to perform—I mean that of affording education for young women who intend to adopt the profession of teachers. We shall not have good schools in other parts of the State unless we can provide them with soundly educated teachers, and this institution is eminently calculated to supply this want. (*Applause.*)

I wish to add before I leave off that it gave me very great pleasure to listen to the recitations which were given this afternoon by the pupils. One or two of them were rendered in the English language with great spirit and correctness. Of the rest we were fortunately able to form some sort of a judgment owing to the thoughtfulness of the authorities in providing us with a translation of the Sanskrit and Kanarese pieces.

We also listened with much interest to the musical performance of the pupils. Your music does not exactly resemble the music to which we are used but it has a pathos and character of its own and I feel sure that the more one heard of it the more one would appreciate and admire it.

I should like to say that, since I have been here, His Highness has spoken to me in the strongest possible terms of the services rendered to this school by Rai-Bahadur Narasim Iyengar, Darbar Bakshi, whose name was so enthusiastically received when it was mentioned just now by the Honorable Mr. Chentsal Rao. (*Applause.*)

I am glad to have this opportunity of recording my appreciation of the excellent work which he has done. (*Applause.*)

It remains for me only to wish success to the Maharani Girls' School and to express the hope that it may prosper and succeed in the charge of Miss Vokins who has lately taken over the school bringing with her a high reputation from one of our English Universities. I can only hope that the girls who study here may follow the admirable example which appears to have been set by that Princess Savitri who was mentioned in one of the Kanarese recitations, and who is said to have learnt her lessons eagerly, to have got them up every day without feeling annoyed in the least, and to have even gone the length of reflecting upon them at intervals. I am afraid that a great many of our English School girls do not reflect upon their lessons once they are outside the school room; if these young ladies will only take the Princess Savitri for their model in these respects, they will certainly do credit to Miss Vokins and to the Maharani School. (*Applause.*)

On the 4th day, i. e., Sunday the 13th, November, the Viceroy and party went to the Kheddas in the Kakankote jungles to witness the elephant catching operations, &c., and returned to Mysore on the 20th. They paid a visit to Seringapatam on the 21st and left the same night for Bangalore, which they reached on the morning of the 22nd.

At the City Railway Station, His Excellency was received by the Resident in Mysore, and the Officer Commanding the Bangalore Division with their respective Staffs and the principal Local Officers. The procession from the Railway Station to the Residency where His Excellency stayed was along the following route:—

From the Petta Railway Station along the bund on the south of the Dharmambudhi tank, then towards the left past the Yelahanka Police Station, District Offices and St. Martha's Hospital, then right along the Cenotaph road, Sydney road, Ice road and Cubbon road to the Residency. On the way, in the Municipal pavilion near the London Mission School, a deputation of the Petta Municipality headed by its Vice-President Mr. Srinivasa Rao presented the following address of welcome which was enclosed in a silver casket:—

To

HIS EXCELLENCY THE MOST HONORABLE SIR HENRY CHARLES KEITH
PETTY-FITZMAURICE, MARQUESS OF LANSDOWNE, G.M.S.I., G.C.M.G., G.M.I.E.,
Viceroy and Governor General of India.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

We, the Municipal Commissioners of the City of Bangalore, beg leave on behalf of its Citizens, to offer to Your Lordship and to Her Excellency the Marchioness of Lansdowne a most respectful and cordial welcome, and to convey to Your Excellency our deep sense of the honor done to us by Your Excellency's visit.

We are glad to assure Your Excellency that under the benign and sympathetic rule of our beloved Maharaja the wants of the people in every part of the State are duly attended to, and the country is advancing with rapid strides in prosperity and enlightenment.

There is however one local want, to which owing to its great importance and the suffering occasion by it, we are constrained to invite Your Excellency's kind attention.

The want of an efficient water-supply has been long and keenly felt by the 80,000 inhabitants of this City, and by the still larger population of the adjoining Civil and Military Station of Bangalore.

We believe that the adoption by his Highness the Maharaja's Government of a definite scheme of the water-supply for the City awaits Your Excellency's decision, as to the way in which our neighbours of the Civil and Military Station, whose interests in this direction are intimately bound up with ours, can be best supplied.

We are aware that several projects have from time to time been under the consideration of Your Excellency's Government during the past few years, but as no scheme has yet been definitely settled, and the sufferings of the people increase day by day, we venture to approach Your Excellency with a prayer for an early solution of the question, so that, either in common with the Civil and Military Station, or by means of a separate arrangement, a plentiful supply of good drinking water may be obtained for this City.

This great boon will imperishably associate Your Excellency's name with the health, comfort and well-being of this growing and important City. We fervently pray to God that long life, health and happiness, may be vouchsafed to Your Excellency, and to all the members of your family.

In reply, His Excellency the Viceroy was pleased to say as follows:—

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN,

I have to thank you for the welcome which you have offered to Lady Lansdowne and myself on the occasion of our visit to Bangalore.

It gives me great pleasure to see Municipal Institutions like your Municipality and that at Mysore established upon so firm a basis within a Native State, and I have been much gratified in listening to the terms in which you have referred to the rule of your Maharaja. Everything that I have seen since I have entered the Mysore State has tended to convince me that in speaking of His Highness's rule as benign and sympathetic you are using no empty phrases, and that the efforts of your Maharaja and his advisers are aimed at improving the condition of his subjects and developing the resources of his State.

The improvements which have been effected since the State was restored to your present ruler, have, I hope, served to protect it in a great measure from the evils to which it was previously liable from recurring periods of scarcity and famine, and have, in your own words, enabled it to advance with rapid strides in prosperity and enlightenment.

I trust that it will be possible before long to remove the hardships from which you at present suffer, owing to the want of an efficient water-supply which I gather from what you say, as well as from what I have heard from other sources, must be urgently needed in your City. I observed, while in Mysore, that the Capital of your State has been provided with an excellent supply of water by the Maharaja's Government, and I have no doubt that His Highness will, as soon as you are in a position to decide definitely upon a scheme for the provision of water to your City, be prepared to consider whether he can assist you. I understand the determination of this question depends to a certain extent upon the action of the Committee of the Civil and Military Station, and I trust that now that an officer has been deputed to examine the rival projects for the supply of water to the Station, the Committee will, before long, be able to determine which scheme to select. I notice that you contemplate as possible a joint scheme by which a plentiful supply of water might be obtained for your City, as well as for the Civil and Military Station. I have heard objections made to such a proposal on the ground that, with a scheme for a joint supply, friction will arise between the two Municipalities as to the distribu-

tion of water. It appears to me that upon the face of it there should not be any insurmountable difficulty in contriving a scheme by which under the guidance of the Resident, satisfactory arrangements might be made for the distribution of water between the two Municipalities, and it is, at any rate, worthy of consideration whether in view of the expenditure involved in the carrying out of two separate schemes, it would not be more prudent for your Committee and that of the Civil and Military Station to combine in carrying out a project which would supply you both an abundant supply of good water.

I have now only to express the pleasure which it has given to us to meet you upon this interesting occasion, and you must allow me to add a word of thanks for the very beautiful work of art in which you have been kind enough to enclose your address.

At noon His Excellency received a deputation of the Municipal Commissioners of the Civil and Military Station at the Residency.

In the evening, His Excellency drove through the City and attended a feté at the Lal-Bagh and afterwards an Evening Party at the Residency.

On the morning of Wednesday the 23rd November 1892, His Excellency witnessed a review of Troops in the Station and in the evening laid the foundation stone of Rai-Bahadur Dharmaratnakara Arcot Narayansami Mudaliar's Orphanage.

His Excellency left Bangalore for Madras by Special Train from the Cantonment Railway Station at 9 P.M., the same night, the departure being private.

CAMP MYSORE,
30th November 1892.

By order,

T. ANANDA ROW,
Chief Secretary.